

BOROUGH OF BRIDGNORTH

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1949

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Bridgnorth for the year ended December 31st 1949.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health: L.E.Dickson, M.D., B.S. (part time)

Sanitary & Food Inspector: V.Nicholls, until May 1949.

E.J.Morgans, B.Sc., MRSI., from 1.10.49
Mr. Morgans is also Borough Surveyor.

Sec.A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	...	2,502
Registrar General's estimate of resident population at mid 1949	...	6,060
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1949 according to the Rate Book	...	1,814
Rateable Value	...	£30,632
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£115.12.8

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	136	60	76) Birth rate per 1,000 of
Legitimate	131	59	72) the estimated resident
Illegitimate	5	1	4) population ... 22.4
Still Births	3	-	3) Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... 21.6
Deaths	101	48	53) Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population ... 16.6
Deaths from Puerperal Causes				... Nil

Deaths of infants under one year of age

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	2	2	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Death Rates

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	14.7	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	15.2	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	nil	
Death from Measles and Whooping Cough	...	nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	nil	
Deaths from Pneumonia	...	nil	
Deaths from Cardio-Vascular Diseases	...	29	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	M. 6	F. 10	...
			16

Sec.B. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Public Health Officers of the Authority. See Page 1.

Laboratory Services are provided at the Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury.

Nursing in the Home is under the control of the Local Health Authority, which is the Salop County Council.

Ambulance Services. There are two Ambulances stationed at Bridgnorth, available for short distance journeys, Telc. Bridgnorth 2303. Arrangements for long distance journeys are made through the County Authority, Telc. Shrewsbury 2626.

Hospitals. There are two Hospitals in the Borough, the Bridgnorth & South Shropshire Infirmary for general hospital work, and Innage House. Innage House is in part an institution for the care of the aged and infirm, a few beds being provided for the male sick of the Institution, and in part an hospital for female patients, mainly those not needing specialised hospital treatment. The hospital part of the Institution is under the control of Group 16, Wolverhampton Local Hospital Management Committee, and the other part of the Institution is under the management of the Salop County Council.

Bridgnorth & South Shropshire Infirmary, is now under the management of Group 16, Wolverhampton Local Hospital Management Committee and Consultants from Wolverhampton have fixed days for attending the Infirmary.

Clinics are held at the Welfare Centre of Bridgnorth as follows:-

Tuberculosis. One of the County Medical Officers for Chest diseases attends on the last Tuesday in each month at 11 am.

Orthopaedic. An after care clinic is held on alternate Mondays from 11 am to 1 pm.

Maternity and Child Welfare. Each Monday from 11 am to 4 pm.

Venereal Disease. There are clinics available at Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton and Kidderminster.

Water Supplies

Rindleford Mains Supply. The quantity and quality of water from this supply has been satisfactory.

Water Analysis.

The results of the Bacteriological examinations of samples of the Borough water are:-

Tap at College House	-	Highly Satisfactory
Water from pump at Rindleford	-	Highly Satisfactory
Tap at the Institute for the Blind, Oldbury	-	Highly Satisfactory
Shallow well water at "Valrosa", Oldbury	-	Although there is no direct evidence of faecal contamination in this one sample the supply should be regarded as unsatisfactory.

Hundred House Water supply to reservoir

800 feet of 3" C.I. Watermain was laid to connect this system to the Town mains. There were also alterations done to the pipe work at the Hundred House Reservoir. This has greatly improved the water supply to that area.

Tasley Supply

The 3" C.I. water main was extended from a tapping on the Sydney Cottage Estate 550 feet to the boundary of the Borough, from where the R.D.C. carried the main on to a storage tank at Tasley.

River Severn

The river did not overflow its banks during the year.

Stand-pipes

63 houses in the Borough are supplied by stand-pipe supply from the Town mains.

Sewerage

There were no foul water sewers laid during the year. About 160 yards of storm water overflow sewer was laid to relieve the surcharge of the sewer in Victoria Road and Salop Street. There were no alterations in the sewage disposal works.

1. Number of houses completed during 1949
 - (a) By the Council - 29
 - (b) By private enterprise - 6
2. Number of houses under construction at 31st December 1949.
 - (a) By the Council - 45
 - (b) By private enterprise - 8
3. Total number of applications for Council houses at 31st December 1949.
 - 242

Shortage of labour and materials still continue to influence the building programme, but the number of houses completed by the Council was more than the previous year, and the number under construction showed a considerable improvement.

Milk Supply (Food & Drugs (Milk & Dairies) Act, 1944)

The above Act came into force on the 1st October 1949, and under it various regulations have been made, namely:-

1. The Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949.
2. The Milk (Special Designations} (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.
3. The Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised & Sterilised) Regulations 1949.

The principal provisions embodied in the above regulations are, briefly :-

- (a) The registration of dairy farmers and of dairy farms becomes the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture. Other dairy premises are still controlled by the Local Authority, and they issue dealers' licences and supplementary licences.
- (b) Fees for issue of licences are abolished.
- (c) Dealers licences for Pasteurised and Sterilised milk are now issued by the Food & Drugs Authority.
- (d) The designation "Accredited" will be abolished after the 1st October 1954.
- (e) Milk sold under a special designation shall satisfy a prescribed test, and methods of taking samples are prescribed.
- (f) The provisions of the previous Milk & Dairies Orders are re-enacted with some modifications and improvements

Registration of distributors has taken place under the new Act. The present number of distributors on the register is 9.

Ice Cream

Number of dealers who make ice-cream in the district -
Hot Mix - Nil. Cold Mix - 1

Number of samples taken for examination - Nil

Meat

Slaughtering of animals, except for casualties and pigs for private consumption, is still carried out at Wolverhampton from which centre meat is distributed to the Borough and District of Bridgnorth.

Meat and other foods condemned in the district in 1949

Sheep Carcasses	-	17	
Beef	-	71 lbs	
Veal	-	1 side	
Tig Carcass	-	1	
Fish	-	10 stone	
Fish in tins	-	34 tins	
Fruit in tins	-	38 tins	
Vegetables in tins	-	57 tins	
Milk in tins	-	50 tins	
Meat in tins	-	41 tins	
Marmalade	-	8 tins	
Meat tarts	-	30	
Tomatoes	-	7½ lbs	Cheese
Liver	-	13 lbs	Coffee Beans
Soup	-	15 tins	Semolina
Smoked Shoulder	-	9 lb	Soya Flour
Sausage	-	20 lbs	Salad Cream
Sutanans	-	1½ lb	Udder fat
			Skirt

Sec.F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES

In October there was a succession of cases of scarlet fever of a mild type.

Apart from this, there was no unusual incidence of infectious diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1949

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever	14	7	-
Tneumonia	5	3	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	-
Measles	19	-	-
"hooping Cough	11	-	-
Food Poisoning	3	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1949

Age Periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory.		Non-resp.		Respiratory.		Non-resp	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1-5	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
5-15	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
15-25	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1
25-35	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
35-45	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45-55	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
55 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	2	3	3	2	2	2	2

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Your obedient Servant,

L.E.DICKSON

Medical Officer of Health.

